# blacknewsdigest

NEWS from the
UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
Office of Information
and Public Affairs
Washington, D.C.
20210

Week of September 6, 1993

IN THIS ISSUE:

U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES JULY 1993

$6.7 MILLION AWARDED FOR OPERATION
OF ARKANSAS JOB CORPS CENTER

## REGIONAL INFORMATION OFFICES

The U.S. Department of Labor operates through 10 regional offices located in major cities across the country. If you want a local angle on a news or feature story provided through this service--or have a direct news inquiry--you may contact one of the offices listed below. This listing includes the names, addresses and telephone numbers of the Regional Directors for Public Affairs and the States in their regions:

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Region I..... | John M. Chavez<br>1 Congress St.<br>11th Floor<br>Boston, MA 02114<br>617-565-2072 | Connecticut<br>Maine<br>Massachusetts<br>New Hampshire<br>Rhode Island<br>Vermont |
| Region II..... | Chester Fultz<br>201 Varick St.<br>Room 605 A<br>New York, NY 10014<br>212-337-2319 | New Jersey<br>New York<br>Puerto Rico<br>Virgin Islands |
| Region III..... | Kate Dugan<br>Room 14120<br>3535 Market St.<br>Philadelphia, PA 19104<br>215-596-1139 | Delaware<br>District of Columbia<br>Maryland<br>Pennsylvania<br>Virginia |
| Region IV..... | Dan Fuqua<br>Room 317<br>1371 Peachtree St., N.E.<br>Atlanta, GA 30357<br>404-347-4495 | Alabama<br>Florida<br>Georgia<br>Mississippi<br>North Carolina<br>South Carolina<br>Tennessee<br>Kentucky |
| Region V..... | John D. Mellott<br>Room 3192<br>230 S. Dearborn St.<br>Chicago, IL 60604<br>312-353-6976 | Illinois<br>Indiana<br>Michigan<br>Minnesota<br>Ohio<br>Wisconsin |
| Region VI.... | Sherrie Moran<br>Room 724<br>555 Griffin St.<br>Dallas, TX 75202<br>214-767-4776 | Arkansas<br>Louisiana<br>New Mexico<br>Oklahoma<br>Texas |
| Region VII... | Patrick A. Hand<br>Room 2509<br>Federal Office Bldg.<br>911 Walnut St.<br>Kansas City, MO 64106<br>816-374-5481 | Iowa<br>Kansas<br>Missouri<br>Nebraska |
| Region VIII.. | Ernest E. Sanchez<br>Room 1468<br>Federal Bldg.<br>1961 Stout St.<br>Denver, CO 80294<br>303-844-4235 | Colorado<br>Montana<br>North Dakota<br>South Dakota<br>Utah<br>Wyoming |
| Region IX.... | Joe B. Kirkbride<br>Suite 1035<br>71 Stevenson St.<br>San Francisco, CA 94105<br>415-744-6673 | Arizona<br>California<br>Hawaii<br>Nevada |
| Region X..... | Mike Shimizu<br>Room 805<br>1111 Third Ave. Bldg<br>Seattle, WA 98101<br>206-442-7620 | Alaska<br>Idaho<br>Oregon<br>Washington |

Week of September 6, 1993

U.S. IMPORT AND EXPORT PRICE INDEXES JULY 1993

WASHINGTON -- The Import Price Index declined 0.5 percent for the second consecutive month in July, the Bureau of Labor Statistics of the U.S. Department of Labor has reported. The decline was primarily due to continued decreases in prices of petroleum imports. The Export Price Index rose 0.2 percent, following a 0.3 percent decline in the previous month.

**Import and export price indexes and percent changes by End Use category - not seasonally adjusted -**

| Month | IMPORTS | | | EXPORTS | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | All Imports | Petroleum Imports | Non-petroleum Imports | All Exports | Agri-cultural Exports | Nonagri-cultural Exports |
| 1992 | | | | | | |
| July | 0.5 | 0.7 | 0.4 | 0.1 | -0.7 | 0.2 |
| August | 0.4 | 0.7 | 0.4 | -0.3 | -3.5 | 0.3 |
| September | 0.2 | -0.9 | 0.4 | 0.4 | 2.4 | 0.0 |
| October | 0.8 | 2.0 | 0.6 | -0.4 | -2.0 | -0.1 |
| November | -0.6 | -2.5 | -0.4 | -0.1 | 0.7 | -0.2 |
| December | -1.7 | -8.6 | -1.0 | 0.2 | 1.5 | -0.1 |
| 1993 | | | | | | |
| January | -0.2 | -2.0 | 0.1 | 0.1 | 0.7 | 0.0 |
| February | 0.0 | 1.8 | -0.3 | 0.2 | -0.6 | 0.4 |
| March | 0.5 | 3.2 | 0.2 | -0.1 | -0.3 | -0.1 |
| April | 0.5 | 2.0 r | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.3 | 0.2 |
| May | 0.3 | -0.4 r | 0.4 | 0.3 | 1.0 | 0.3 |
| June | -0.5 r | -4.0 r | -0.1 r | -0.3 | -2.8 r | 0.1 |
| July | -0.5 | -5.8 | 0.2 | 0.2 | 5.2 | -0.5 |
| July 1991-92 | 2.8 | 7.2 | 2.1 | 0.9 | 3.0 | 0.9 |
| July 1992-93 | -0.8 | -14.3 | 0.8 | 0.5 | 2.2 | 0.3 |

r = revised to reflect late reports and corrections by respondents.

-more-

Import Goods

The 0.5 percent decline in import prices was associated with a 5.8 percent decrease in the index for petroleum imports. Petroleum prices have been decreasing for 3 months and are down 14.3 percent for the 12-month period ended in July.

In contrast, nonpetroleum import prices, up 0.2 percent, registered widespread increases during July. The indexes for automotive vehicles and for consumer goods each resumed their recent upward trends, rising 0.3 percent and 0.1 percent, respectively, after both had edged down slightly in June. Capital goods prices continued to rise, up 0.2 percent for the second consecutive month. The index for nonpetroleum industrial supplies and materials edged up 0.1 percent after decreasing for the previous 3 months due to falling prices of selected building materials. Prices of foods, feeds, and beverages edged up 0.1 percent in July.

For the year ended in July, import prices edged down 0.8 percent, after increasing 2.8 percent during the previous 12-month period.

Export Goods

Export prices rose 0.2 percent in July, primarily due to a 5.2 percent jump in the index for agricultural commodities. The July increase in agricultural prices was the largest monthly change in over 4 years.

In contrast, prices for nonagricultural commodities declined 0.5 percent in July, after increasing for 3 months. The nonagricultural index remains up 0.3 percent for the year. Most of the components of nonagricultural exports declined in July, led by a 0.7 percent decrease in the index for nonagricultural industrial supplies and materials. The index for capital goods decreased for the first time since March, down 0.3 percent. The decline was widespread, reflecting decreases in both electrical and nonelectrical machinery. Prices of nonagricultural foods (primarily fish) fell 10.7 percent. The index for automotive vehicles edged down for the second consecutive month, down 0.2 percent.

Prices for exported consumer goods edged up 0.1 percent in July after decreasing 0.5 percent in June. For the year ended in July, consumer export prices are up 1.7 percent.

The Export Price Index has increased 0.5 percent since July 1992, compared with a 0.9 percent rise over the previous 12-month period.

# # #

Week of September 6, 1993

## $6.7 MILLION AWARDED FOR OPERATION OF ARKANSAS JOB CORPS CENTER

WASHINGTON -- A $6.7 million contract from the U.S. Department of Labor will enable the Arkansas-based DEL-JEN, Inc., to operate the Little Rock Job Corps Center in Little Rock, Labor Secretary Robert B. Reich has announced.

The funds are to be used within one year and will also help the firm recruit new students and place graduates of the Job Corps program.

The Little Rock Job Corps Center -- with a capacity of 200 students -- offers vocational training in word processing, home health, geriatric nursing, building/apartment maintenance, culinary arts, plumbing and more. In addition, the center also provides basic education, work experience, counseling, health care, clothing, meals and other supportive services.

Job Corps is the nation's oldest residential education and training program for disadvantaged youth aged 16 to 24. Established in 1964 by the Economic Opportunity Act, the program prepares nearly 68,000 students each year at 108 centers in 43 states and the District of Columbia for productive employment.

# # #